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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DELAWARE
ASC
FARM NEWS

NEWSLETTER

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May 28, 1959

THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Conservation Reserve Program is to assist producers to withdraw cropland from the production of crops through shifting of acreage from the production of surplus-burdening commodities to conservation uses, by sharing the cost of establishment of conservation practices and making annual payments for keeping such acreage in the conservation reserve.

A producer who participates in the program must sign a contract in which he agrees to remove land from the production of crops and devote it exclusively to conservation uses. The producer may be paid a part of what it costs to establish protective cover or certain other conservation practices. The producer also receives annual payments for the term of the contract, to compensate him for keeping the land out of production.

The sign-up which was held last fall for the 1959 Conservation Reserve program in Delaware resulted in 209 contracts being completed. A total of 14,435 acres were retired from crop production for a period of from 5 to 10 years.

A breakdown in counties is as follows:

New Castle County	63 Contracts	6,215 acres
Kent County	80 Contracts	5,423 acres
Sussex County	66 Contracts	2,800 acres

It should be noted that farmers cannot harvest or graze anything from the Conservation Reserve acres during the period of the contract. Small grain used as a nurse crop in establishing the grass cover must be clipped before seed is mature. Canada thistle must be controlled and not be let go to seed.

ACP MAINTAINED AT \$250 MILLION

The House of Representatives, backing the recommendations of the House Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations, gave approval to the 1960 Agricultural Appropriations Bill calling for \$250 million for the Agricultural Conservation Program. This program, if concurred in by the Senate and President, will assist farmers in carrying out needed Conservation Practices on their land through cost-sharing and payments for technical assistance, at the same level as the last few years.

The ACP shares cost with farmers to encourage and assist them to carry out on their farms authorized new and additional soil-building and soil- and water-conserving practices. The program is designed to (1) restore and improve soil fertility, (2) minimize erosion caused by wind and water, and (3) conserve water on the land.

WHEAT

Farmers of Delaware have only until May 31 to dispose of wheat planted in excess of their acreage allotments or 15 acres, whichever is larger, in order to qualify for a 1959 Wheat Marketing Card. Grain dealers are not permitted to buy a farmer's wheat unless he presents a 1959 Marketing Card. Excess wheat may be disposed of by mowing, plowing under or grazing off.

The Wheat Buyers in Delaware are being sent a Wheat Buyers' Guide which gives them the regulations governing the purchase of wheat. If they buy wheat without the proper wheat marketing card or certificate they must deduct \$1.07 per bushel penalty and send it to their county ASC Committee to process.

Congress is now considering the wheat program for 1960. No doubt a referendum will be held for the farmers to decide whether they wish to continue with a marketing quota and price support. Wheat producers will be notified of their allotments before the referendum, and the date of the referendum.

The minimum price support rates for 1959 wheat are based on a national average support price of \$1.81 per bushel as compared to the final 1958 national average of \$1.82. These prices are for Grade No. 1 wheat. The terminal rate at Baltimore for No. 3, garlicky, Red Winter Wheat, is \$2.07 per bushel this year, compared to \$2.09 per bushel for 1958 wheat. These prices are subject to freight and handling charge deductions. Prices should be further checked with your county ASC office at harvest time.

OTHER GRAIN PRICE SUPPORTS ANNOUNCED

Barley. The basic county price-support rate for 1959-crop barley in Delaware will be 88 cents per bushel for barley grading No. 2 or better. Rates will be further adjusted for grades below No. 2 in determining support prices for individual producers.

Oats. Prices for Delaware's 1959-crop of oats will be supported at 59 cents per bushel for grade No. 3. To be eligible for support, 1959-crop oats must grade No. 3 or better, or No. 4 on the factor of test weight only. Premiums are 1 cent per bushel for grade No. 2 or better, 1 cent for heavy test weight, and 2 cents for extra heavy test weight.

Rye. Prices for this year's crop of rye will be supported in Delaware at a basic rate of \$1.03 per bushel on grade No. 2 or better, or grading No. 3 on the factor of test weight only.

Price support will be carried out, as in previous years for barley, oats and rye, through farm- and warehouse-stored loans and purchase agreements. Support will be available from harvest time through January 31, 1960. Terminal rates are available for barley and rye.

Corn. 1959 farm-stored corn may be placed under loan or purchase agreement by eligible producers at a national average of not less than \$1.12 per bushel. While county support prices have not been announced as of now, they should be about \$1.25 per bushel in Delaware according to past year differentials.

Soybeans. 1959 farm and warehouse stored soybeans may be placed under loan or purchase agreement by eligible producers at a national average support rate of \$1.85 per bushel. While county support prices have not been announced as of now, they should be about \$1.81 for yellow beans in Delaware, according to past year differentials.

USDA STUDIES COSTS OF MARKETING WHITE BREAD

From 1948 to 1958 rising marketing costs for white

bread have caused increase of 5.4¢, or 39%, in average retail price of 1-lb. loaf. Price of wheat and other ingredients used in bread declined 0.4¢ in same period, according to a USDA report. Researchers found that farm-to-retail price spread increased 5.8¢ from 1948 to 1958, mainly because of increases in baker-wholesaler margin. Wages and salaries and costs of wrapping materials and other supplies accounted for most of increase. Farmers received only 2.4¢ for wheat and 0.6¢ for other ingredients in loaf of bread selling for average of 19.3¢ in 1958, report states. Free copy of "Marketing Margins for White Bread," Miscellaneous Publication No. 712, may be obtained from Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

WILL YOU BE ONE OF THIS YEAR'S STATISTICS?

One American farmer out of every six will suffer a

disabling injury this year according to a report from the National Safety Council. Agricultural engineer, Ernest Scarborough, with the University of Delaware, says American farmers will spend about \$40,000,000 and 20,000,000 work days, on injuries this year.

The accident rate among farmers is four times as high as among factory workers. This is because of the intensive safety program carried out in industry, according to Scarborough. He says the National Safety Council urges every farmer to carry out his own campaign against accidents. It's cheaper and doesn't hurt at all.

DOMESTIC DONATIONS OF USDA SURPLUS FOODS

More than 2-1/4 billion


pounds of surplus foods have been donated by the USDA during the first three-fourths of the current fiscal year, for use in school lunch programs and by charitable institutions in this country and by needy persons in this country and abroad.

Total distribution of 2,252,500,000 pounds represented an increase of 42% in donations to recipients in this country over the same period a year ago, and a decline of 15.9 percent in the volume of donations to foreign recipients.

The donated foods were acquired by the Department in the operation of price support and surplus removal programs, and were donated through the Direct Distribution Program of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. Not included in these figures are foods which the Department has purchased specially for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program.

FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

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The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research. It also mentions the scope of the study and the limitations. The second part of the paper discusses the methodology used in the study. It mentions the data sources and the statistical methods used. The third part of the paper discusses the results of the study. It mentions the findings and the conclusions. The fourth part of the paper discusses the implications of the study. It mentions the policy implications and the future research. The fifth part of the paper discusses the conclusion of the study. It mentions the overall findings and the recommendations.